the Commerce Ministry in consultation with the Jewellery Export Promotion Council; and

(c) by what time a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) to (c) Government has taken a series of measures to improve the availability of gold for export production of jewellery taking into account the suggestions of the trade & industry. These include special arrangements by the Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC) for supply of gold to specialised Gem and Jewellery Export Production Complexes, repeal of the Gold Control Act and availability of credit. Further input support is being extended whenever necessary in consultation with trade and industry.

Vacation of 'Stay' Order obtained by M/s Bombay Dyeing in CEGAT

1923. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1095 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd March, 1989 and state:

(a) what action Government have taken to vacate the 'stay' order obtained by M/s. Bombay Dyeing in CEGAT;

(b) what is the outcome of the miscellaneous application filed by the Customs Department before the CEGAT for expeditious hearing of the above matter;

(c) whether it is a fact that whenever Government revenue is involved no 'stay' order is granted without obtaining a valid bank guarantee for the involved amount; and

(d) if so, whether any bank guarantee was obtained and/or insisted upon by the Department in the instant case indicating the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Customs, Excise & Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT) has finally disposed off the Miscellaneous application and the appeal and has remanded the matter back to Collector of Customs, Bombay for adjudication on some points.

(c) and (d) The authority granting stay generally specifies the conditions subject to which the stay is being granted. The stay may be subject to furnishing a Bank Guarantee/Cash security/bond etc. depending upon the facts of each case and as per the judgement of the authority granting the stay. In this cast the duty amount has been secured by a bank guarantee to the tune of Rs. 1.15 crores and balance amount is covered by a simple bond.

Trade with Australia

1924. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI JAGADISH JANI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had discussed the issue relating to bilateral trade and economic matters with the Foreign Minister of Australia recently in New Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the fields in which two countries have agreed upon for stepping up the trade; and

(c) when the next meeting of the Indo-Australia Joint Commission is likely to be held and where it is to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian side emphasised the growing shift to value-added products in our exports and suggested greater cooperation in the area of projects. The Australian side conveyed their interest in exploring the possibility of direct supply of rough diamonds to India and upgradation of technological capabilities in this field. Both sides also agreed to identify new areas of cooperation based on commonality of approach in different areas.

(c) The next meeting of the Indo-Australia Joint Ministerial Commission is likely to be held in New Delhi by January, 1991 to discuss issues of bilateral cooperation.

Agreement with Radisson Hotel Corporation of USA

1925. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what were the terms of contract entered into between ITDC and Radisson Hotel Corporation, USA;

(b) whether any discussions were held by ITDC with other International Groups of Hotel before entering into the agreement with M/s. Radisson; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the main reasons for selecting Radisson in comparison to other such corporations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) The broad terms of agreement are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLV, Annexure No. 57]

(b) and (c) ITDC held preliminary negotiations with two other well-known international hotel chains. While one party did not show interest, the other party's interest was linked with its hold on the management of ITDC hotels. This was not acceptable to ITDC as it was not in the interest of Government. However, the proposal received from M/s Radisson Hotel Corporation of USA was considered mutually beneficial.

Visit of Foreign Tourists to J & K

1926. SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state the number of foreign tourists who visited J&K during 1988, 1989 and upto July 1990 year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): As per the information available from the State Government, the number of foreign tourists who visited Kashmir Valley during the last 2 years and first 4 months of the current year are as given below:

Year	No. of foreign tourists
1988	59,938
1989	67,762
1990 (Jan-April)	1,896

The figures for later months are not available.

देश में कपड़े की आवश्यकता

1927. श्री राम नरेश यादव : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत की बढ़ती हुई आबादी को देखते हुए कितने मीटर वस्त्रों की